

REMARKS

Currently, claims 1, 3-12, 19-25, and 32-36 are pending in the present application. Claims 9-11, 19-25, 33, 34, and 36 are presently withdrawn. All of the presently withdrawn claims contain the limitations of independent claim 1 and the process claims have been amended to be commensurate with independent claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims upon allowance of claim 1.

Applicants have presently incorporated the limitations of previous claim 14 into independent claim 1. Additionally, Applicants have amended to clarify various claims to reflect the incorporation of claim 14 (i.e., requiring "m" to equal zero in the general formula). Applicants have further amended various claims to correct minor typographical errors and improper dependencies. As such, Applicants respectfully assert that the present amendment does not place a further examination burden upon the Examiner and respectfully requests entry of the amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 13, 14, and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have presently canceled claim 13. Furthermore, Applicants have incorporated claim 14 into independent claim 1 and amended general formula (I) to reflect m=0. Additionally, claim 35 has also been amended to reflect m=0. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Additionally, in the Office Action, independent claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,535,127 to Matsuzaki in view of JP60170652. As obviating Applicants claimed multiblock of formula I, the Office Action points to Example 46 of Matsuzaki that discloses a polyacetal starting material of

trioxane and ethylene glycol formal and a thermoplastic elastomer "formed from 4,4'-dicyclohexylmethane diisocyanate, ethylene glycol, and poly(ethylene adipate)."
However, as correctly noted by the Examiner, neither Matsuzaki nor JP60170652 disclose or suggest the structural elements of -X-CO-X deriving from diesters of carbonic acid (chain linking agent). As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

As a final matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his helpful comments regarding the potential incorporation of claim 14 into claim 1. Applicants believe they have fully addressed the concerns denoted on pg. 8 of the Office Action regarding placing the limitations of claim 14 into claim 1. However, if any further issues remain, Applicants respectfully requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

As such, it is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully submitted,

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